



MICHIGAN  
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COUNCIL

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November 2, 2015

Dear House Energy and Tech Committee Members:

On behalf of the Michigan Forest Products Council (MFPC), we urge you to oppose HB 4297 (H-2) and HB 4298 (H-3).

We understand the important energy policy choices facing Michigan at this time, which is why we recognize the importance of reliable and cost-effective solutions that achieve upcoming environmental requirements as well as continue to protect consumer rates. At this time, the MFPC must respectfully oppose these bills in their current form because HB 4297 (H-2) & HB 4298 (H-3) would raise our members' energy costs and jeopardize their competitiveness within the industry.

Our primary concerns with the bill are:

- Dismantles the Consumer Retail Electric Choice Program
- Authorizes decoupling that will increase consumer rates
- Loses the value of the Integrated Resource Planning (IRP) Program
- Changes the definition of biomass and repeals renewable portfolio standard
- Removes statutory framework and certainty

We hope that we can continue to engage as this process furthers in an effort to craft a comprehensive energy policy that will advance Michigan's goals of reliable, affordable and clean energy.

The Michigan Forest Products Council works to promote, protect and sustain a vibrant forest products industry in Michigan. Michigan has 19.3 million acres of forest land supporting over 87,000 jobs and \$17.8 billion in annual economic activity.